

CSR News Flash

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Center for Scientific Review
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George Chacko Named CSR's Director of Planning, Analysis and Evaluation

Dr. George Chacko will become the new Director of the Office of Planning, Analysis and Evaluation at the NIH Center for Scientific Review (CSR). He will lead efforts to plan and assess initiatives to enhance the referral and review of NIH grant applications at CSR.



"George brings with him an exceptional set of analytic and leadership skills and a deep appreciation of NIH peer review," said CSR Director Dr. Toni Scarpa. "But we were most impressed by his abilities to think outside the box and turn good ideas into good practices. These skills will be invaluable as CSR continues to work to meet future challenges."

In discussing Dr. Chacko's qualifications, Dr. Scarpa noted that he "has nearly 10 years experience as a scientific review officer and review group chief and he is a two-time winner of CSR's most coveted staff awards."

Dr. Chacko recently won a CSR Architect Award for coordinating CSR efforts in an inter-agency collaboration to review applications for Qualified Therapeutic Discovery Project grants to stimulate the economy. In 2007, he won a CSR Explorer Award for leading CSR efforts to develop and implement the [Internet Assisted Meeting Platform](#).

Dr. Chacko is currently the Chief of CSR's Bioengineering Sciences and Technologies Integrated Review Group. He previously was the Scientific Review Officer for CSR's computational biophysics special emphasis panel. He also coordinated the review of other applications in the Biological Chemistry and Macromolecular Biophysics Integrated Review Group. He came to CSR from the National Cancer Institute, where he was a CRTA fellow, focusing his research on signal transduction in lymphocytes.

Dr. Chacko received B.V.Sc. (D.V.M. equivalent) and M.V.Sc. degrees in veterinary medicine and veterinary pathology respectively in India. He also received a Ph.D. in biochemistry and immunology at The Ohio State University in Columbus. Dr. Chacko began his postdoctoral training at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis.

About CSR

CSR organizes the peer review groups that evaluate the majority of grant applications submitted to NIH. These groups include experienced and respected researchers from across the country and abroad. Since 1946, CSR's mission has been to see that NIH grant applications receive fair, independent, expert, and timely reviews — free from inappropriate influences — so NIH can fund the most promising research. CSR also receives all incoming applications and assigns them to the NIH institutes and centers that fund grants. For more information, go to CSR's Web site—<http://www.csr.nih.gov>—or phone 301-435-1111.

About NIH

NIH — the Nation's Medical Research Agency — includes 27 Institutes and Centers and is a component of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. It is the primary federal agency for conducting and supporting basic, clinical and translational medical research, and it investigates the causes, treatments, and cures for both common and rare diseases. For more information about NIH and its programs, visit <http://www.nih.gov>.